V

M

VIGNOBLE BEACONSFIELD,

BEACONSFIELD,

POINTE CLAIRE, P.Q.

MENZIES ET COMPAGNIE,

PROPRIETAIRES.

JOHN NELSON, JR.,

AGENT GÉNÉRAL.

JOHN LOVELL & SON, 23 St. Nicholas Street, MONTREAL.

V

M

VIGNOBLE BEACONSFIELD,

BEACONSFIELD,

POINTE CLAIRE, P.Q.

MENZIES ET COMPAGNIE,

PROPRIETAIRES.

JOHN NELSON, JR.,

AGENT GÉNÉRAL.

SB390
C3
V5

V
des v
sont
prié
Beac
en vo
au C
field,
tivée

I
vigno
cultu
ces i
somm
la cu
manu
qui e

I
whic
Ame
are r
const
sale
are a
sold
to th

I
invit
to th
furn
is in
of th
chas

VIGNOBLE BEACONSFIELD.

ETABLI EN 1877.

Vu qu'au moyen de certaines annonces trompeuses on offre en vente des vignes que l'on dit provenir du vignoble Beaconsfield, mais qui ne sont que des vignes Américaines *importées des Etats-Unis*, le public est prié de se rappeler qu'il *n'y a pas d'autre* vignoble que le nôtre à Beaconsfield ou ailleurs dans les environs, et les vignes que nous offrons en vente sont *les seules* vignes Beaconsfield que l'on puisse se procurer au Canada Toutes ces vignes ont été plantées et cultivées à Beaconsfield, et nous garantissons que chaque vigne que nous vendons a été cultivée à cet endroit et qu'elle est acclimatée à la province de Québec.

Les personnes qui ont déjà planté des vignes, provenant de notre vignoble, et qui ont quelques doutes et difficultés à ce qui regarde leur culture, sont requises de demander des informations aux soussignés, et ces informations leur seront fournies avec plaisir et diligence. Nous sommes a faire préparer un manuel court et donnant tous les détails de la culture de la vigne, pour servir de guide à nos pratiques. Ce manuel sera envoyé *gratis* a tous ceux qui ont acheté de nos vignes ou qui en acheteront a l'avenir.

MENZIES ET CIE.

THE BEACONSFIELD VINEYARD.

ESTABLISHED 1877.

In view of certain misleading advertisements offering for sale vines which are *stated* to be of the Beaconsfield variety, but which are really American vines *now being imported from the United States;* the public are requested to note that there is *no other* vineyard than ours at Beaconsfield, or anywhere in the vicinity, and the vines offered by us for sale are the *only* Beaconsfield vines obtainable in Canada. These vines are all of our own growth, propagated at Beaconsfield, and every vine sold by us is selected and guaranteed to be native grown and acclimated to the Province of Quebec.

Persons who have already planted vines from this vineyard, are invited to apply to the undersigned in any case of doubt or difficulty as to their cultivation, when information will be cheerfully and promptly furnished them. A short and comprehensive *Manual of Grape Culture* is in preparation, to serve as a plain guide for our customers, and a copy of this manual will be forwarded gratis to all who have already purchased our vines, or may hereafter do so.

MENZIES AND COMPANY.

AVIS AUX ACHETEURS.

DONNEZ vos commandes, le plus tôt possible. Nous prions ceux qui donneront leurs commandes par lettre de donner leur adresse en plein, le nom du bureau de poste ou la station du chemin de fer ou l'on devra expedier les vignes.

Les petites commandes, seront généralement envoyées par la malle, au bureau de poste indiqué. Les commandes importantes seront expediées par express à la station du chemin de fer la plus proche. Nous n'avons qu'un seul prix pour nos vignes c'est-à-dire 50 cts. chaqu'une, et nous seront toujours minutieux dans le choix des vignes, n'envoyant que celles d'une bonne grosseur. Nous payons les frais de transport par tout le Canada et les E. U. Nos termes seront d'une grande libéralité pour ceux qui donneront une commande en gros, c'est-à-dire, audesssus de 100 vignes.

Nous vendons argent comptant; et pour un ordre moindre qu'une douzaine l'argent devra accompagner la commande.

Nous serions heureux que chaqu'une de nos pratiques accusent reception, et nous fassent connaître plus tard les résultats qu'ils ont obtenus, afin que nous ayons une part de leur contentement, ou afin de régler d'une manière satisfaisante toute cause de plainte. Nous nous efforcerons de donner entière satisfaction, mais, quand nous avons des milliers d'ordres à remplir, il peut souvent se glisser quelques légères erreurs, mais notre plus grand désir sera de les corriger immédiatement.

Nous avons le plaisir d'annoncer que nous avons retenu les services de M. Norbert Roy, fils du Capt. L. H. Roy, du vapeur Berthier, qui prend charge des vignobles, et qui sera toujours heureux d'y rencontrer les visiteurs.

Correspondance sollicitée. Toute information à ce qui regarde la culture et l'entretien des vignes sera donnée promptement et avec plaisir.

Adresse,

MENZIES ET COMPAGNIE.
Vignoble Beaconsfield,
Beaconsfield,
Pointe Claire,
P. Q.

Ou, John Nelson, jun., Agent Général,
Boîte 1312 Bureau de Poste,
Montréal.

NOTICE TO PURCHASERS.

PLEASE ORDER EARLY.

PARTIES ordering by letter are requested to give their full address, together with the name of the post office or railway station to which they wish their vines delivered. Small orders will be generally sent by mail to the post office indicated. Large orders by express to the railway station.

While we have but one price for the vines we sell, which are all selected and of good size, viz., 50 cents each, carriage charges paid to any part of Canada or the United States, we will treat all large orders of over 100 vines with due liberality.

Our terms are cash. Orders for less than one dozen are to be accompanied by the amount.

We wish to hear from every purchaser respecting every lot sent out, that we may share our customres' gratification, or have the opportunity to remove any cause of complaint. We aim to give entire satifaction, but, where we have to fill many thousands of orders, some errors may occur, and we desire to promptly correct them.

We have pleasure in announcing that we have secured the services of Mr. Norbert Roy, son of Capt. L. H. Roy, of the Steamer Berthier, who takes charge of the vineyards, and who will always be happy to meet visitors there.

Correspondence solicited. Enquiries as to vine culture, training, &c., cheerfully and promptly answered.

Address,

MENZIES & CO.,
The Beaconsfield Vineyard,
Beaconsfield,
Pointe Claire,
P. Q.

Or, John Nelson, jun., General Agent,
Post Office Box 1312,
Montreal.

Les Vignobles et Pépinières Beaconsfield, qui couvrent déjà une étendue d'environ 30 arpents, ont été établis, afin de donner à la culture de la Province de Québec, une variété de vignes, sur lesquelles on peut compter, vu quelles ont poussé dans cette province, et après expérience, ont été trouvées convenables à la culture générale. Afin que le succès accompagne la culture de la vigne il est essentiel, à cause de notre latitude nord et de nos courtes saisons, que la variété choisie, soit d'une nature très dure ; pour qu'elle pousse et murisse rapidement avant d'être affectée par les premières gelées.

Il est impossible, dans la Province de Québec, de cultiver avec ample succès, les plantes délicates du midi.

Mr. C. Husson, auteur français très-éminent, écrit dans son ouvrage intitulé " Du Vin," à propos d'un climat propice à la culture de la vigne :

" Il importe de ne pas tirer des plants du midi pour les trans-
" porter dans le nord. A contraire, il convient de choisir des
" cépages, d'un climat moins chaud que celui ou ils doivent être
" plantés."

Suivant ces observations, il est clair que le plus grand soin devrait être pris, dans le plant d'une vigne qui ne serait pas acclimatée au pays, et qui serait offerte en vente par qui que ce soit et au nom du premier venu.

Personne ne doit acheter une vigne, s'il n'est pas convaincu que cette vigne à poussé dans le pays, quelque soit le nom du vendeur et le nom de la plante.

Les sousignés, soumettent ci-annexées, les différentes opinions et avis de la presse, au sujets des vignes Beaconsfield, dont la culture à été introduite, sur une très grande échelle, et avec succès par notre Mr. J. H. Menzies, il y a déjà trois années, et qui ont conséquemment supporté, le climat rigoureux de trois hivers Canadiens.

Ceci nous prouve que cette vigne à eu un succès éminent, et méritée la place, de vigne " par excellence," parmi les cultivateurs de cette province. C'est une acquisition d'une importance telle pour ce pays, qu'elle ne saurait-être trop estimée, et il est à espèrer que vu l'établissement d'un vignoble, sur une aussi grande échelle, au milieu de notre province, et actuellement en culture, encouragera les cultivateurs Canadiens, à étudier et observer les méthods les plus pratiques, afin qu'ils puissent rivaliser plus tard avec les vignerons de France ; dont l'immense richesse et les ressources inépuissables, ont été acquises sous des circonstances presque semblables, à ce que nous pourrions obtenir dans ce pays, fut-il couvert de vignobles.

Beaconsfield, avril, 1880.

MENZIES ET COMPAGNIE.

The Beaconsfield vineyard and nurseries—already some thirty arpents in extent—have been established for the direct supply of reliable native-grown vines of a variety which has been found suitable to general cultivation in the Province of Quebec.

On account of the northerly latitude, and the shortness of the season, it is essential to success in grape culture that the variety chosen shall be of a very hardy nature, and that it shall mature rapidly and ripen its fruit before it can possibly be injured by early frosts. It is impossible to cultivate in Quebec, with general success, the delicate plants of a more southerly latitude. An eminent French authority, M. C. Husson, in his work "Du Vin," writing on this subject of suitability of vine to climate observes that, "It is important never to transplant vines from the South to the North. But on the contrary always choose plants from a climate *cooler* than that where they are to be planted."

Under these conditions it is obvious that the utmost care should be exercised in planting vines not acclimated to the country, by whomsoever or under whatever name they may be offered for sale, and the undersigned submit that the annexed opinions and notices of the press upon the Beaconsfield vine, whose cultivation on a large scale was first introduced here by our Mr. J. H. Menzies, some three years since, and which has now borne the rigours of three Canadian winters, fully show that it has proved an eminent success in all respects, and has established its position as the grape vine *par excellence* for the farmers of this province.

It is an acquisition whose importance to the country can scarcely be over-rated, and it is hoped that the establishment in the midst of the farmers of Quebec of a vineyard on a large scale, and under actual cultivation, by affording them a convenient means of observing the best practical methods of cultivating the vine, may encourage them to emulate the viguerons of France, whose immense wealth, solidity and general richness of resources, has been acquired under conditions not dissimilar to what would obtain here, with the country covered with vineyards.

MENZIES & COMPANY.

BEACONSFIELD, April, 1880.

MONTREAL WITNESS.

2 Septembre 1878.

LE CANADA EST-IL UN PAYS VIGNOBLE?

Les premiers voyageurs norses, qui pénétrèrent en Amérique par le Greenland, racontèrent qu'ils avaient atteint une contrée dont les vignes se couvraient de grappes. Jacques Cartier trouva la côte du Bas St. Laurent si abondamment tapissée de raisins qu'il appela l'Ile d'Orléans, "l'Ile de Bacchus." La Rivière-aux-Raisins, à Lancaster, doit sans aucun doute son nom à un fait semblable. Il est donc possible que si nous n'avons point le flanc de nos collines couvert de vignobles, ce n'est point parce-que la vigne n'y viendrait point, mais parceque nous n'avons pas découvert les meilleures variétés pour notre climat. Nos vignes sauvages sont assez vigoureuses et leur fruit pourrait être amélioré par la culture à l'égal des meilleurs. Nous avons été étonnés du présent d'une boite de raisins parfaitement mûrs obtenus par M. J. H. Menzies, de cette ville, en pleine terre à la Pointe-Claire. Ces raisins étaient plus mûrs et plus doux que ceux qui, jusqu'à présent, nous viennent du sud et sont d'une qualité aussi bonne que ceux vendus ici. Nous ne nous serions attendus à voir des raisins mûrir à Montréal, que deux ou trois semaines plus tard, si mêmes ils y eussent mûri; mais M. Menzies nous dit qu'il mangeait déjà des raisins depuis une semaine. M. Menzies a planté au printemps de l'année dernière une vigne de deux mille cinq cents pieds, cette année étant la première récolte d'une partie des vignes seulement. Il est convaincu que, pour les habitants de cette Ile, la culture de la vigne deviendra une source importante de richesse.

IS THIS A LAND OF VINES.

The early Norse voyagers who reached America by way of Greenland reported having reached a country of clustering vines. Jacques Cartier found the shore of the Lower St. Lawrence so luxuriantly hung with grapes that he called the Isle of Orleans the Isle of Bacchus. The Rivière au Raisins at Lancaster doubtless owes its name to a similar phenomenon. It is possible, then, that if we have not our hill sides covered with vineyards it is not because grapes will not grow well, but becausewe have not discovered the best varieties for our climate. Our wild vines are hardy enough, and their fruit might be improved by culture to be equal to the bet. We have been astonished by a present of a box of fully ripe grapes grown by Mr. J. H. Menzies, of this city, in the open air at Pointe Claire. The grapes are riper and sweeter than those that have hitherto reached us from the South, and are of as good quality as are sold. We should have expected to see grapes ripen in Montreal two or three weeks hence, if at all, but Mr. Menzies says he has been eating grapes for a week back. Mr. Menzies planted in the spring of last year a vineyard of twenty-four hundred vines, this being the first bearing year of a part of the vines only. He is now convinced that to the inhabitants of this island the culture of the grape might prove an important source of wealth.

15 November, 1878.

GRAPE CULTURE IN QUEBEC.

Sir,—It is important in a country like this—where farming is so little remunerative—to find some special thing that may be successfully cultivated, and for which a profitable market can be readily found. I believe this desideratum is found in the vine. Naturally very hardy, it appears to be well suited to both our climate and soil, growing in a wild state, as it does, all over the country. But for the purposes of commerce it is necessary to find some cultivated variety that will ripen early—both to avoid the danger of early frosts, and that it may compete successfully with the foreign fruit that is usually imported here in the month of September. A variety discovered only some two or three years since, and which has been now named "The Beaconsfield," appears to meet these requirements—ripening fully between the 25th of August and the 5th of September, earlier than any foreign fruit can be imported; it is very prolific, and of rapid growth; the fruit is large, of a dark purple color, sweet and luscious, and fit for table use, being quite free from that acrid taste that foreign imported fruit necessarily has by reason of its being gathered in an unripe state for a distant market.

Having gathered all the information I could respecting this vine I determined to try it, and in the spring of 1877 I planted a vineyard of about three acres with 2,500 vines. A few of them bore fruit that year, and the present year (1878) gave me a crop of nearly a ton weight, comparatively but a few only of the vines bearing, but the yield of these was very satisfactory, numbers of the vines bearing as many as thirty good-sized bunches, and one in particular fifty bunches. I believe from what I have observed that I am justified in estimating my crop for next year at not less than thirty tons of grapes. As one-half of this crop would more than repay the total cost of the vines, labor and all expenditure in the in-gathering of that crop, it is evident that this will yield a very great profit, and I am so well pleased with the result of my experiment in its financial aspect, and as showing that the vine can be successfully cultivated in this country, that I have made arrangements to plant 4,000 vines more in the coming spring; this will give me over 6,000 vines, occupying about eight acres of land.

I am anxious to induce our people to engage in vine culture, for I am convinced it may be made a most important and profitable adjunct to every Canadian farm, and in many cases a principal source of revenue. It is hardy, does not require a specially excellent soil, and its cultivation is perhaps less costly in time and labor than that of any other fruit.

J. H. MENZIES.

Pointe Claire, 11th Nov., 1878.

DAILY STAR.

19 Novembre 1878.

CULTURE DE LA VIGNE AU CANADA.

L'idée de cultiver la vigne avec chance de succès dans notre pays si au nord, semble au premier abord si étrange qu'elle ne mérite pas un seul moment de sérieuse attention. L'esprit se reporte naturellement vers ces régions méridionales de France, d'Italie et d'Espagne, comme la Patrie du plus délicieux de tous les fruits de la terre. Et malgré ce sentiment naturel, la question peut être faite : Pourquoi en est-il ainsi? La vigne est résistante et parait convenir à notre sol et à notre climat, puisqu'elle y croît à l'état sauvage et l'on peut prendre comme un axiome que là où une plante ou un arbre croît spontanément, le lieu convient pour la culture de cette plante ou de cet arbre. Il reste seulement à choisir une variété, qui mûrisse vite et assez à bonne heure pour échapper aux gelées hâtives et qui puisse lutter avec le raisin étranger importé ici en si grande quantité pendant le mois de septembre, pour rendre la culture avantageuse de la vigne au Canada une possibilité. Une variété qui possède toutes les qualités et qui a été nommée le " Beaconsfield," a été découverte il y a environ trois ans ; l'attention de M. J. H. Menzies qui a donné à la question beaucoup d'attention, fut appelée sur cette variété, il fut si favorablement frappé de l'apparence de ce nouveau plant, qu'avec un esprit d'entreprise fort recommandable, il acheta de la nouvelle variété un nombre de pieds suffisant pour former une vigne à sa maison de campagne à la Pointe-Claire. M. Menzies dit qu'après recueilli tous les renseignements sur cette variété, il se détermina à l'essayer et au printemps de 1877, il planta une vigne d'environ 3 acres, formée de 2,500 pieds. Quelques-uns d'entr'eux portèrent fruit la même année, et cette année (1878), il en eut une récolte d'environ une tonne en poids, quoique comparativement peu de ceps aient portés ; mais la récolte de ceux-ci est des plus satisfaisantes, nombre des ceps portaient jusqu'à trente grappes de bonne dimension et l'un en particulier cinquante grappes. Il croit être dans le vrai, d'après ses observations, en estimant sa récolte pour l'année prochaine au-dessus de trente tonnes de raisins, et comme la moitié de cette récolte ferait plus que payer le coût total de l'achat des pieds de vigne, des frais de culture et toutes les dépenses de la récolte, il est évident que le profit sera fort beau. M. Menzies dit aussi, que le " Beaconsfield " est très prolifique, est en pleine maturité entre le 25 août et le 5 septembre. Le fruit est gros, d'une couleur violet foncé, doux et juteux, n'ayant point ce goût acide que le raisin importé a nécessairement, par suite de son expédition pour le marché lointain avant d'être à maturité. M. Menzies est si satisfait du résultat de son essai, au point de vue financier, et comme établissant que la vigne peut être cultivée avec succès dans ce pays, qu'il a pris toutes les dispositions pour planter au printemps prochain 4,000 " Beaconsfield " de plus, ce qui lui donnera au delà de six mille ceps et une vigne d'environ huit acres d'étendue. Le succès de M. Menzies démontre à l'esprit que la culture de la vigne au Canada est possible, ce qui est à la fois nouveau et frappant et tend à introduire dans le pays une industrie nouvelle à la fois importante et profitable.

CRAPE CULTURE IN CANADA.

The idea of successfully cultivating the vine in our northern country is one which upon first thought seems to be so preposterous as to merit hardly a moment's serious consideration. The mind naturally reverts to the sunny climes of France, Spain or Italy as the natural home of this most luscious of all the fruits of the earth. But notwithstanding this natural feeling, the question may be asked why it should be so? The vine is hardy, and appears to be well suited to both our soil and climate as it grows readily in a wild state, and it may be taken as an axiom that where a tree or plant is found to grow spontaneously that place is suitable for the successful cultivation of such tree or plant. It remains only then to select a variety which will mature fast and ripen early enough to escape the possible early frosts and compete with the foreign fruit which is imported so extensively here during the month of September, to make the successful cultivation of the vine in Canada a possibility. A variety for which these qualities are all claimed, and which has been named the "Beaconsfield," was discovered some three years ago, and brought before the attention of Mr. J. H. Menzies, a gentleman who ha given the question some considerable attention, and who was so favor ably impressed with the appearance of this new claimant for public favor that with commendable enterprise he invested in a quantity of plants sufficient to start a little vineyard at his country house at Pointe laire. Mr. Menzies says that, having gathered all the information he could in regard to this vine, he determined to try it, and in the Spring of 1877 he planted a vineyard of about three acres with 2,500 vines. A few of these bore fruit that year, and in the present year (1878) he got a crop of nearly a ton weight, comparatively but few of the vines bearing; but the yield of these was very satisfactory, numbers of the vines bearing as many as thirty good-sized bunches, and one in particular fifty bunches. He believes he is justified from his observations in estimating his crop for next year at not less than thirty tons of grapes, and as one-half of this crop would more than repay the total cost of the vines, labor and all expenditure to the in-gathering of that crop, it is evident that this will yield a very good profit. Mr. Menzies says the "Beaconsfield" is very prolific, ripens fully between the 25th August and the 5th of September. The fruit is large, of a dark purple color, sweet and luscious, being quite free from that acrid taste that foreign imported fruit necessarily has, by reason of its being gathered in an unripe state for a distant market. So well pleased is Mr. Menzies with the result of his experiment in its financial aspect, and as showing that the vine can be successfully cultivated in this country, that he has made arrangements to plant an additional 4,000 "Beaconsfields" next spring, which will give him upwards of 6,000 vines and a vineyard of about eight acres of land. The success of Mr. Menzies opens to the mind the possibility in connection with grape culture in Canada, which is at once novel and startling, contributing as it would a new industry to Canada both important and profitable.

LA VOIX DU PEUPLE.

St. Jean, 18 Décembre 1878.

LA VINICULTURE AU CANADA.

La culture de la vigne est certainement la branche de l'art agricole la plus négligée, la plus ignorée, parmi nous. A part quelques rares amateurs qui la regardent comme une exploitation de luxe, personne ne s'est jamais douté que le Canada pouvait se fournir par lui-même de raisins de table, et encore moins de vins. Depuis longtemps l'on s'est fait à l'idée que notre climat, comme notre sol, sont impropres à cette culture ; il fallait que des étrangers vinssent nous détromper, en nous révélant une nouvelle source de richesse et de prospérité, pourvu que l'on sache bien l'exploiter et que l'on ne se décourage pas par les premiers essais. Il faut avouer que généralement les canadiens n'aiment guère les innovations et qu'il est extrêmement difficile de les faire sortir du chemin de la routine. C'est peut-être ce défaut qui paralyse le plus le développement de nos ressources naturelles si nombreuses, si variées.

L'exemple de M. Menzies qui possède une ferme à la Pointe-Claire, sur l'Ile de Montréal, contribuera nous l'espérons à secouer notre apathie, car l'épreuve qu'il a tentée nous paraît décisive en faveur de la culture de la vigne.

LA MINERVE.

11 Décembre 1878.

La culture de la vigne peut se faire avec profit dans cette province, témoin ce qu'en dit dans la correspondance suivante M. Menzies ; très-compétent sur cette question d'importance.

LE NOUVEAU-MONDE.

8 Décembre 1878.

LA CULTURE DE LA VIGNE EN CE PAYS.

Nous l'avons dit déjà maintes fois et nous ne cesserons de le répéter tant qu'on ne l'aura pas mieux compris, généralement la plupart des canadiens eux-mêmes ne connaissent pas suffisamment les avantages multiples que leur pays offre à l'esprit d'entreprise et d'activité. Que de préjugés qui n'ont pas leur raison d'être, empêchent le développement de nos ressources naturelles si variées. Car il ne faut pas s'imaginer que la province de Québec, par exemple, n'est propre à peu près qu'à la culture de l'avoine et du foin Sans entrer aujourd'hui dans le détail d'autres grains, de légumes et de fruits dont son sol et son climat permettent la culture dans des conditions et avec des résultats tout-à-fait avantageux, nous croyons pouvoir à la fois démontrer la plausibilité de notre opinion et nous rendre utiles à nos lecteurs en reproduisant la lettre suivante, qui

a été communiquée à la presse anglaise de cette ville. Nous avons vu nous-mêmes cet automne, dans la paroisse de la Pointe-Claire, sur l'Ile de Montréal, la vigne de M. Menzies, avec quelques amis, qui n'ont pas été moins surpris que nous de constater jusqu'à quel point la culture de la vigne peut être un succès dans cette province, du climat de laquelle on médit tant.

A la fin de chaque été nous importons des Etats-Unis de grandes quantités de raisins de table que nous pourrions facilement et avantageusement paraît-il, récolter ici ; sans compter le vin que l'on pourrait en faire.

Voici les renseignements intéressants fournis par M. Menzies :

" Il est important que dans un pays comme celui-ci, où les travaux agricoles sont si peu rémunérateurs, de trouver quelque plan spécial qui puisse avoir un marché facile et profitable. Je crois que cet objet peut être atteint par la culture de la vigne.

" Notre climat et notre sol paraissent bien convenir au raisin, puisqu'on le voit croître à l'état sauvage par tout le pays: mais pour les fins du commerce, il est nécessaire d'adopter une espèce de raisin qui puisse mûrir de bonne heure, afin d'éviter les dangers des gelées et de pouvoir faire compétition avec succès aux fruits étrangers, qui nous arrivent généralement dans le mois de septembre.

" Une espèce de raisin connue seulement depuis 2 ou 3 ans, et qu'on nomme " Beaconsfield," paraît convenir à cette fin. Il mûrit complètement, du 25 août au 5 septembre, ce qui est plus à bonne heure qu'aucun autre fruit importé. Il est prolifique et d'une croissance rapide. Le fruit est gros, d'une couleur pourpre foncée, doux et mielleux. Il est propre à la table, n'ayant pas ce goût acide qu'ont les fruits étrangers cueillis avant d'être mûrs, pour être transportés à des marchés éloignés.

" Après avoir pris, continue M. Menzies, toutes les informations possibles, au sujet de cette vigne, je me décidai à l'essayer, et au printemps de 1877, j'en plantai 2,500 pieds sur environ trois acres de terre.

" Quelques-uns des pieds m'ont donné du fruit la même année, et cette année (1878), j'ai récolté près d'un tonneau de raisin. Il y a encore bien des pieds qui n'ont pas porté fruit. Plusieurs des vignes ont donné 30 grappes de bonne grosseur ; une en a donné 50. D'après ce que j'ai observé, je crois que la récolte de l'année prochaine sera d'au moins 30 tonneaux de raisin.

" Comme la moitié de cette récolte suffirait pour me rembourser du coût des vignes, des travaux et de toutes les dépenses pour la cueillette du raisin, il est évident que j'aurai un très grand profit.

" Je suis tellement satisfait du résultat de mon expérience sous le rapport du revient, et comme démontrant que la vigne peut être cultivée avec succès dans ce pays, que j'ai pris des arrangements pour une plantation de 4,000 nouvelles vignes, au printemps prochain, ce qui me fera plus de 6,000 vignes sur une étendue d'environ huit acres de terre.

Je serais désireux d'engager d'autres cultivateurs à cultiver la vigne, car je suis convaincu que cela peut devenir une source des plus importantes et des plus profitables pour les cultivateurs canadiens, et dans bien

des cas, la source principale de leur revenu. Ces vignes ne requièrent pas un sol particulièrement excellent, et leur culture est peut-être moins dispendieuse, en fait de temps et de travail, que celle d'aucun autre fruit."

MONTREAL WITNESS.

21 December, 1878.

GRAPE GROWING IN CANADA.

Is Canada adapted for the culture of the grape vine? is a subject which agriculturists and horticulturists are now agitating. When Great Britain with her milder climate finds it impossible to grow vines except under glass, we should conclude that Canada, with a temperature during the summer months as high as some parts of the Southern States, and exceptionally low in winter, would prove a still less promising field; but there are properties in the soil and climate of this country which favor the cultivation of the grape vine. A pure atmosphere and a limestone bottom are essential, both of which Canada possesses to a greater or less extent. The atmosphere is rendered clear by its immense water courses; as for instance, the mighty St. Lawrence and the beautiful Ottawa rivers sweeping by our shores regulate the atmosphere and purify the air.

In view of the statement recently made that Europe will yet depend on America for vines, the question of vine culture is destined to be an important one. In France there exists a disease (*phylloxera*) among the vines, which in time will prove disastrous to the culture of the grape. The soil on the Island of Montreal and vicinity has properties that are not equalled on the continent. As an illustration, the fameuse apple grown on the Island of Montreal and below Quebec has a higher color, firmer flesh, and a tartness that is unsurpassed by any other species of the fruit. The fruit grown in Western New York, although fine, cannot command as high prices in the European markets as Canadian fruit. In Scotland the buyers have learned that the fruit imported from Canada has the preference on the market.

Grape-culture has been very uncertain, although satisfactory at times, in Canada, owing to the early frost, which often destroys the crop before it is matured. Another great enemy to the grape is "mildew," but this difficulty is almost invariably overcome by a pure atmosphere. The production of grapes is not governed by changeable seasons, as apples and other fruits. The vines, as a rule, bear abundantly every year. Another advantage in growing grapes is that they will bear the second year, and do not require as much labor as any other farming product. For instance, one man if properly trained can prune and lay down an acre of vines in a day. Two men can cultivate and secure for the winter eight or ten acres of vines. The next point to consider is the profit to be derived from grape-culture. Under the most unfavorable circumstances an acre of vines will produce from five tons upwards. Calculating a sale at 10 cents per pound, an acre would realize a profit

of $1,000. In order to be successful in grape-culture, however, it is necessary to become acquainted with the planting and pruning of the vine, which is very simple, easily learned, and does not require the science in cultivating that other products do. The success of Mr. James Morgan, jun., is worth mentioning in support of the suitableness of the climate of Canada for grape-culture. Mr. Morgan sent a specimen of the grapes grown in his garden at Hochelaga to the Philadelphia Exhibition. Notwithstanding that specimens were exhibited from the vineyards of every part of the United States, including the great fruit centre of Western New York, he was awarded a diploma and bronze medal. The success of Mr. Menzies at Pointe Claire with what is now termed the "Beaconsfield" vine has also been gratifying. His vines being an early ripener bear on the 25th of August, and are not subject to injury by early frosts. Mr Menzies being of the opinion that grape-culture will prove an important source of wealth to the inhabitants of this island, has enlarged his vineyard at Pointe Claire, and has gone into the business on a large scale. There is a large amount of waste land in the vicinity of Montreal, too expensive for farming, which is well adapted as regards soil for vine culture, and which if utilized would yield a handsome revenue to the owners.

DAILY STAR.

12 December, 1878.

THE "BEACONSFIELD" GRAPE.

The discovery of this new vine, which has been proved by Mr. Menzies to be so wonderfully well adapted to the peculiar circumstances of our Canadian climate, bids fair to make a complete revolution in the grape trade of Montreal. In the course of a year or two, judging from the results already accomplished by Mr. Menzies, our tables will be furnished with this most luscious and palatable fruit in the greatest profusion. The successful cultivation of the vine can be carried on by any one, and every farmer, gardener and private individual possessing the necessary soil should give the "Beaconsfield" a trial.

---

8 February, 1879.

THE BEACONSFIELD GRAPE.

Speaking of the wonderful possibilities in regard to the cultivation of the grape in Canada, *La Semaine Agricole* says: "The success obtained by Mr. Menzies at Pointe Claire, with his new grape, which he has called the "Beaconsfield," has been the means of causing a number of the farmers in the vicinity of Montreal to inquire into the manner of planting and cultivating the vine, with the view of devoting themselves to its culture. The product of the vine has this advantage, that it is not subject to atmospheric changes like apples and other fruit. It generally

bears abundantly every year,—always bears fruit the second year and sometimes even the first year after planting. It does not require so much labor as other farm products; for example, a man who understands it can plant and prepare an acre of vines in a day, two men can, in the same time put from nine to ten acres of vines under shelter for the winter, from the rigors of the winds and snow. An acre of vines under the least favorable circumstances will produce five tons of grapes and even more at 10 cents per pound—this would yield $1,000. The opinion has been already expressed that before long Europe will require to have recourse to America for grapes, since in France and other parts of Europe the disease called "phylloxera" is doing great damage in the vineyards. It is notorious that the soil which is good for apples is also good for grapes, and it is impossible to find any apple which equals the Fameuse of the Island of Montreal. There are also apples in abundance in the Quebec district which, if they are not more celebrated it is because sufficient pains are not taken to graft or prune the trees to improve their quality, and that they do not plant orchards of better kinds of fruit."

14th March, 1879.

OUR INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

CAN CANADA SUCCESSFULLY CULTIVATE THE GRAPE?

We are so accustomed to regard the cultivation of the grape as being essentially confined to the sunny slopes of Spain, France or Italy, or, if in less favored countries as to climate, within the protecting influence of glass-covered hot houses and artificial heat, that the proposition that it may be successfully cultivated in paying quantities in the open fields in Canada is readily set down as preposterous. As we have previously stated in an article on this subject, the proposition, however absurd it may be considered, has become an accomplished fact. A vine peculiarly favorable to the climate and conditions of Canada, called the "Beaconsfield," has lately come to notice, and the gentleman who first, some two years ago, invested in the new discovery planted a small vineyard at Pointe Claire in an open field on the shores of Lake St. Louis, and last summer was rewarded with about a ton of most excellent fruit. He calculates that his crop next year, when his vines get fully under bearing, will be at least thirty tons. There does not seem to be any reason, therefore, why every farmer or gardener who may have a plot of land to spare for this purpose should not have some vines under cultivation. In such an event the supply of grapes in Canada would be very great, and it becomes of interest to inquire as to the probable chances of a market for the immense crops that would eventually be produced. Turning to the trade returns for the year ending 30th June, 1877, we find that the Dominion imported during that period some 217 tons of grapes, valued at $31,349. Of this amount 170 tons, the value of $21,424, came from the United States, and were the product of that country, and of the

variety which would enter into competition with our production. The Canadian import duty is ten, and the American twenty per cent., and if our Government will advance the duty to twenty or twenty-five per cent., it will have the effect of securing a market for our native production to the extent of the greater proportion of the amount now imported from the United States. Then when the grape is produced at home much larger quantities of it will naturally be consumed here, and take the place of other imported fruits. The manufacture of wine from native grapes is an industry which in the Province of Ontario is assuming considerable proportions. The Canada Vine Growers' Association has a vineyard of 70 acres at Cooksville, which has been under careful cultivation for some years, and in addition to the product of their own vineyard, they purchase all they can obtain, claiming that the only limit to the amount of their production is the supply of grapes. Canada imports annually about $400,000 worth of wines of various kinds. and the native Canadian production is well calculated to replace the greater proportion of the import, being cheaper and more absolutely pure than a large share of the trash that is imported. Canada also imports upwards of $400,000 worth of raisins, and if some enterprising individual will look into the question of making raisins from the native grape it is possible that an immense and profitable trade in this branch of dried fruit might be developed, as tons of raisins are made from native grapes upon the Pacific slope—notably in California. It will thus be seen that in what may at first sight appear to be an insignificant industry, there is a possibility of the development of a Canadian trade whose ultimate importance and extent it is at this early day almost impossible to conceive.

MONTREAL WITNESS.

22nd May, 1879.

MR. MENZIES' EXPLANATION REGARDING THE "BEACONSFIELD" GRAPE.

SIR,—Would you have the goodness to have published for general information the enclosed letter from Mr. J. H. Menzies, as it contains some information of general interest to those interested in grape culture. This letter has been unavoidably held over, and if you can kindly give it space at an early date, you will very much oblige

HENRY S. EVANS,
Secretary M. H. S. & F. G. A. of P. Q.

Montreal, 20th May.

BEACONSFIELD, Pointe Claire, P. Q.
20th February, 1879.

DEAR SIR,—I am informed by a delegation from the Montreal Horticultural Society that a great number of enquiries are being made of the Society as to the origin of the vine I am growing here, and which I have named the "Beaconsfield," and I have been invited to furnish the Society with the desired information.

I cheerfully do so, promising, however, that my own information is limited, and that I have no personal knowledge of the origin of the vine.

As I have been informed, it is a seedling developed near Rochester, N. Y., some four or five years since. In the spring of 1877 it was brought under my notice, and as I found that the vine had already been planted here in a small way,—notably by Mr. L. W. Decker, of Decker's Park, from whom I informed myself of its qualities,—I engaged more extensively in its cultivation.

It was introduced to my notice as of the "Champion" variety, and, I think, was known to Mr. Decker by that name; but I have since learned that the name "Champion" was used as a general descriptive name, in the absence of a more appropriate one.

It appears there are two other varieties of the "Champion"—the "Champion" proper and the "Talman Champion"—with neither of which can the present be confounded. I am also informed that the horticultural societies in the States cannot agree to name it "Champion;" they have refused to do so, and the vine has no recorded name whatever. Among my vines I received a hundred of the true "Champion," whose fruit ripened last year fully a fortnight later than that of the "Beaconsfield;" so that I know there is a great and essential difference between the two varieties.

This is simply all I know of the history of the vine, and I have only to add that, having visited Mr. Decker's vinery in the autumn of 1877, I know mine to be identically the same as that grown by Mr. Decker, which fact may enable the Society to identify it.

I have stated in a circular and have published that I am prepared to supply these vines from my own vineyard at Pointe Claire, and I ought perhaps to explain here that this supply will come from 45,000 cuttings from my own vines that I have now in the nursery.

I have no desire to overpersuade people to purchase my vines. If there be any hesitancy or doubt on their part as to the success of the experiments, by all means let them wait until the next harvest of fruit that they may see and be convinced. I am content that the vine shall be dealt with on its own merits.

My reasons for avoiding any repetition of the name "Champion," and for naming the vine the "Beaconsfield," are these: I found it to be a really valuable vine, very early and prolific, and one admirably suited, as I think, to our climate, which the "Champion" is not.

To continue to name it the "Champion" would create confusion and occasion disappointment to persons who might engage in its culture, for the chances are that they would purchase the variety that is properly called the "Champion"—a much inferior vine, and one having no particular qualities to recommend its cultivation here—and the result of this mistake would bring discredit upon the "Beaconsfield," and upon all who may have recommended its cultivation.

Apart from business considerations, which of course had their due weight, I am of opinion that the giving it a distinguishing name was a prudent step, protecting the public, as it will, from falling into the error

of planting another and totally different vine, under the impression that it is the one we are treating of.

I gave it the name "Beaconsfield"—name honored of the great statesman—after my place at Pointe Claire, which bears that name, where it was planted and has succeeded so well. It is a good vine, and deserves a good name.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. MENZIES.

To the Secretary Montreal Horticultural Society, Montreal.

17th July, 1879.

A SUMMER RETREAT.

POINTE CLAIRE GROWING IN FAVOR—AN ANCIENT CHURCH—A FAMOUS QUARRY—GRAPE GROWING.

During the past few years, through the facilities offered by the Grand Trunk Railway and the desire of business men to rusticate in pleasantly situated retreats, a multitude of summer resorts have sprung up along the line. Few places have grown more rapidly in this way than the ancient little village of Pointe Claire, distant from Montreal about sixteen miles. Five years ago we learn that the community of English-speaking residents was confined to two families, while at the present time the number has increased to over one hundred during the summer months. The village contains about 900 inhabitants, principally French Canadians.

Before the introduction of the railway the village was celebrated as a stopping place for the old-fashioned stage-coach. One of the most remarkable buildings in the multitude of diminutive whitewashed cottages built indiscriminately along the narrow streets is the old Roman Catholic church, erected over a century ago, and which will shortly sink into insignificance before a more modern edifice, about being completed. The bell, which has summoned successive generations of the villagers to worship, was imported from London one hundred and ten years ago.

Pointe Claire quarry has become famous for the stone it has yielded, a great portion of the material used in building the massive abutments of Victoria Bridge having been taken from its rocky bed, and conveyed by means of barges to its destination.

The advantages of Pointe Claire as a summer resort are

ITS HIGH SITUATION,

such a thing as a fog hanging over the village being almost unknown to the oldest resident. The magnificent sheet of water—Lake St. Louis—rolling past its shores is the chief attraction of the place, and one thoroughly appreciated by its summer residents, who have their rowing-house, boathouse and boating club, with commodore and vice-commodore to command the fleet of yachts.

A NEW SETTLEMENT.

Beaconsfield is the name given to a little settlement, boasting of a

station at which the trains stop, situated a half mile out of the village. The astute councillors of Pointe Claire, with a view to increasing their revenues, are about taking steps to extend their limits in order to include Beaconsfield, much against the desire of the proprietors of the Beaconsfield Vineyard, who prefer to remain under the jurisdiction of the county, believing that in a few years the place will be large enough to take care of itself. A terrace of handsome cottages is all occupied. The English Church service is performed during the summer months at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, a neat little building, erected for the convenience of the settlement.

GRAPE CULTURE.

The proprietors having encouraged visitors to inspect their vineyard, have quite a number interested in grape culture seeing the grounds daily. A representative of the WITNESS while being shown over the vineyard on Saturday, met a party who had driven from Pointe-aux-Trembles for the purpose of obtaining a few hints before engaging in the cultivation of vines. A visit to the vineyard at the present time is worth the trouble and time expended. The vines to the number of 2,500 planted in 1877 are strung up on trellises placed six feet apart, and are perfectly loaded down with fruit. One of the proprietors, at the request of an incredulous visitor, counted one hundred and twenty-seven branches of grapes on one vine. As the "Beaconsfield" is advertised to ripen about the 25th of August, preparations are being made to provide for the storage and disposal of about thirty tons of grapes, which it is confidently hoped the 2,500 vines will yield in the course of six or seven weeks. The visitors on seeing the bunches of fruit hidden beneath a mass of broad leaves express surprise, and are no longer doubtful of the successful cultivation of the vine in this province. The Beaconsfield grape has been confounded with the Talman Champion, which the proprietors most decidedly affirm that it is not, as will be evident to any one who compares the two. This grape has been sold under the name of Champion, but that name being found to apply to no less than seven other varieties of grape it has been named the Beaconsfield. It is held by some that shelter from the wind is good for vines. This fact does not seem to be borne out by experience here, as the more sheltered vines are not so well developed as those exposed.

The visitor is next shown the nursery to the right of the vineyard, where some 85,000 young vines are planted, in expectation of a large demand for the Beaconsfield vine this season. In order to illustrate that the soil does not prevent the successful cultivation of the vine, the visitor is taken to a land broken up this spring, which did service as a meadow for fifteen years. The soil is a hard clay, apparently more suitable for the manufacture of brick than the growing of grapes. So fully assured are the proprietors of the success of their vineyard that they intend to cultivate about one hundred acres in vines in the course of a year or two. A young vineyard of twenty acres planted this spring is progressing favorably, and will bear fruit next year. The only manure used in the vineyard is for mulching. As regards the labor used the proprietors state that their land was not specially prepared by experienced nursery-

men for the vines, the whole of the labor being obtained from the village at a cost of eighty cents per man. They prefer local labor, and have given employment to thirty-two French-Canadians since the spring.

The encouragement they have met with in the Province of Quebec, and especially among the farmers, far exceeded their expectations. A number of French-Canadian gentlemen, believing that the culture of the vine was an industry that would shortly be developed in this province, have planted several acres. In every case where a large number of vines are purchased the proprietors send laborers educated in the vineyard to instruct the purchaser how to plant them and take care of them.

A communication was received at Beaconsfield this spring from Germany, where a deadly insect-enemy of vines is playing havoc, for an estimate, with half a million plants.

Vines have been despatched this spring from Beaconsfield to British Columbia, Manitoba, and all parts of Canada.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

9th August, 1879.

BEACONSFIELD, POINTE CLAIRE, P.Q.

THE HOMESTEAD.

Beaconsfield, the residence of Mr. Menzies, has been so named in honour of two of England's greatest statesmen—Burke and Disraeli—and it has now given a name to the pioneer vineyard of Lower Canada.

The Homestead, the subject of our sketch, is situated on a point jutting out in the middle of Lake St. Louis, which commands, perhaps, one of the finest views in the Dominion. The Adirondac Mountains are seen in the dim azure distance. The whole extent of the lake, a noble expanse of water, stretching to a distance of ten miles on either hand, is plainly visible; the wooded banks of the St. Lawrence as far as the Lachine Rapids; the glistening spires of Caughnawaga and Beauharnois; the Isle Perrot, with its embowered villages, and Isle St. Genevieve, with the smaller islands clustering below the St. Ann's Rapids; the handsome parish church of Pointe Claire, and the convent, with its ancient windmill close at hand; the confluence of the Ottawa and the St. Lawrence rivers, with their different colored water gliding side by side—these all combine to make it, perhaps, the most charming retreat on the Island of Montreal.

Partially surrounding the dwelling-house is a vineyard of about 2,500 vines, planted in 1877 by Mr. Menzies. The vines are trained upon trellises, and present a very handsome, pleasing and, indeed, surprising appearance, for they are literally loaded with fruit. Grapes as large as marbles in bunches that will average nearly a pound a piece, astonish the beholder, and on many of the vines there are as many as 120 and 130 bunches. The grapes, we are informed, will ripen between the 21st and the 31st of the present month (August). It is a large grape, sweet and luscious, of a dark purple color, with a rich bloom, and in all respects an excellent table grape.

Walking through the vineyard between the rows of vines, which are trained so as not to obstruct the view, we presently arrive at the

NURSERY,

which extends along the beach, where two neat whitewashed bathing-houses are shaded by a grove of noble trees. The nursery presents an interesting and novel sight. Stretched in lines, about three feet apart, are about 85,000 young vines, planted at intervals of six inches one from the other. These are all native plants, propagated on the establishment, and their vigorous and flourishing appearance is very remarkable. On the opposite side of the main road is seen a row of six handsome villa cottages, occupied by Montreal families who retreat here during the summer. In two of them are reserved certain apartments for the accommodation of visitors to the vineyard. The proprietors are always glad to receive visitors, and to extend to them the hospitalities of the place. In the rear of these cottages is a small church, formerly used for the Protestant services at the new Inland Cut works, Lower Lachine, and afterwards presented to the Protestant community of Pointe Claire by the contractor, our esteemed fellow-citizen, Mr. F. B. McNamee. Extending from this point for a mile and a half due north, is what is destined to be the principal seat of the great industry of vine-culture. About twenty acres of vines are seen growing luxuriantly in fields on either hand, separated by a broad avenue, which will be continued throughout the length of the property, and bordered by a line of handsome shade trees. In this vineyard are about 15,000 vines, which will nearly all bear fruit next year. They are planted five feet apart, in rows which are ten feet apart, and it is a beautiful sight to trace the straight lines of vines drawn out and almost geometrically correct.

Proceeding along the avenue to the railway track, which crosses the property, we observe a short distance to the left the

BEACONSFIELD RAILWAY STATION,

taking its name from the vineyard, and affording accommodation to the residents at Beaconsfield, as well as the quaint and beautifully-situated village of St. Genevieve, some three miles distant, and the surrounding country. Much praise is due the authorities of the Grand Trunk Railway for the ready accommodation they always afford, and their liberal encouragement of local traffic in this, as in many other instances. The proprietors of this vineyard are doing a good work, and we are glad to think that their reward will be great. Employing a large staff of men, they have given constant and much-needed employment to the inhabitants of the village, and they are, moreover, training a large number of French Canadians in the art of planting and cultivating the grape vine. Their experience in this is most gratifying, for it would be impossible to find more teachable or better skilled workmen than the French Canadians when they have been properly taught.

As our readers are aware, this is the first experiment in open air vine-culture in Lower Canada, and its success being now fully assured, a reflecting mind must see in it possibilities in connection with the future

of our people that are most encouraging. No policy of tariffs, national or other, can effect much while the farmers of Canada, the backbone of the country, and the great consumers of manufactures, are in their present condition. And if by the introduction of a new industry, and such an important adjunct to farming as vine-culture may easily become, their condition can be ameliorated, and they can be enabled to consume the products of our manufacturers, there is at once created a market which no merely political measure can do. When we consider the immense wealth, the solidity and the general richness of resources that distinguish France—a nation of the same race as that of Lower Canada—acquired under conditions not dissimilar to what would obtain here, with the country covered with vines, we feel assured that vine-culture, with its kindred industries, may easily become the means of obtaining this desideratum.

L'OPINION PUBLIQUE.

14 Août, 1879.

BEACONSFIELD, POINTE-CLAIRE

Tel est le nom que M. Menzies a donné à son établissement en l'honneur des deux grands hommes d'état anglais, Burke et Disraeli. La résidence de M. Menzies est située sur les bords du lac Saint-Louis, dans un endroit charmant d'où le regard embrasse les paysages les plus grandioses et les plus variés. Les bords ombragés du Saint-Laurent jusqu'aux rapides de Lachine; les clochers étincelants des églises de Caughnawaga et de Beauharnois; l'Ile Perrot, l'Ile Sainte-Geneviève et les îlots verdoyants au bas des rapides de Sainte-Anne; la jolie église de la Pointe-Claire et le couvent avec le vieux moulin à vent; les eaux de l'Ottawa et du Saint-Laurent qui se réunissent et essaient en vain de confondre leurs couleurs:—tout cela forme un magnifique tableau.

Autour de cette résidence poétique est un vignoble de 2,500 vignes planté en 1877 par M. Menzies. Les vignes, disposées avec art sur des treillis, sont des plus belles et chargées de fruits. Les grappes formées de raisins gros et nombreux—on en compte jusqu'à 120 et 130 par grappe—pèsent depuis une demi-livre jusqu'à près d'une livre. Les raisins seront mûrs entre le 21 et le 31 du mois d'août; ils sont gros, doux et succulents, d'une belle couleur de violet foncé; ce sera un magnifique raisin de table.

A travers deux rangées de vignes on arrive à la

PÉPINIÈRE

qui s'étend le long de la rive du fleuve et offre un joli coup-d'œil. Sur des lignes parallèles éloignées de trois pieds, on aperçoit 85,000 jeunes vignes plantées à six pouces les unes des autres; elles sont le produit de l'établissement et pleines de vigueur et de sève.

De l'autre côté du chemin public est un groupe de six jolis cottages habités pendant l'été par des familles de Montréal.

En arrière de ces cottages se trouve le siége principal des opérations industrielles de M. Menzies, un champ de vingt acres séparé par une large avenue et rempli de vignes qui porteront toutes des fruits l'an prochain. Rien d'agréable à contempler comme ces plantations qui sont disposées avec beaucoup de goût et d'élégance.

A une petite distance de l'avenue on voit la station de chemin de fer Beaconsfield, qui est très-utile à ceux qui demeurent sur la propriété Beaconsfield ou la visitent, et aux habitants du village de Sainte-Geneviève, situé à trois milles.

Les propriétaires du vignoble Beaconsfield ont entrepris d'établir dans notre pays une industrie dont nous devons souhaiter ardemment le succès. C'est une tentative, un essai qui mérite l'attention et l'encouragement du public.

Quand on songe que la France doit une grande partie de sa fortune à la culture de la vigne, on comprend l'importance de l'entreprise des propriétaires. Ils emploient un bon nombre de nos compatriotes qui, après avoir appris l'art vinicole, le répandront dans nos campagnes, développant une industrie qui pourrait augmenter considérablement la valeur de nos terres.

Malheureusement, il y a un préjugé contre tout ce qui naît et se développe dans le pays ; au lieu de se faire un devoir d'encourager un produit canadien, on prend plaisir à s'en moquer, et ceux qui crient le plus fort en faveur de l'industrie nationale sont souvent les plus sceptiques sous ce rapport. On devrait se faire un devoir de ne demander que du raisin Beaconsfield, afin de contribuer autant que possible au succès d'une industrie que nous devons tous, si nous sommes réellement Français ou fils de Français, aimer à voir s'établir parmi nous. D'ailleurs, ce raisin vaut autant et mieux même souvent que celui dont nous faisons usage généralement, et le prix en est moins élevé.

Qu'on demande donc du Beaconsfield ou du raisin de la Pointe-Claire : on favorisera une entreprise canadienne et on sera satisfait.

DAILY STAR.

31st July, 1879.

CANADIAN GRAPE-GROWING.

THE BEACONSFIELD VINEYARD A COMPLETE SUCCESS.

We have referred on several occasions to an enterprise which we have claimed gave promise of taking important rank among the industrial resources of our country. The industry referred to was the cultivation of the grape in the open air, and so absurd was the idea thought of our competing with supposed more favored countries, that the promoters of the industry here were good-humorously chaffed by their friends and misrepresented and discredited by jealous rivalry. The gentlemen interested had, however, great faith in their enterprise, and went steadily

and patiently forward with their work, simply requesting their critics to call around when the fruit was ripe and see for themselves the possibilities of growing grapes with profit in Canada. Summer has come round and brought with it the entire justification of all and more than the proprietors of the Beaconsfield vineyard have claimed for it, and that is an entire success. The prevailing idea is that a long and very favorable season is necessary for the successful ripening of grapes in the open air in Canada, and so it is with most varieties, but the Beaconsfield seems to have been designed by nature, either under a very lucky star or with a special idea to the circumstances of our vigorous climate. As will be remembered, the spring was unusually backward this season, and everything was late in getting a start; then when a start was made we were visited with a succession of late frosts which made havoc with the fruit crop of the island, the standing crop being cut down 75 per cent. by the frost of the 5th of June. The little vineyard at Beaconsfield, however, escaped entirely unhurt, and is bearing what is said to be an unusually heavy crop for three-year old vines. A STAR reporter visited the vineyard a few days ago and found the vines literally loaded with fruit, many of them bearing over one hundred bunches, one selected at random actually counting one hundred and thirty-five bunches, many of which even now, a month before the height of the season, would weigh over a pound. The proprietors estimate that they would get twenty-five tons of grapes this season would seem already to be fully realized. The unqualified success of the vineyard has spread its fame far and wide, and parties from all parts of the country are constantly being shown the wonders of grape-growing. Even the good-humored critic is there, and frankly admits he "wouldn't have believed it except he had seen it." The grapes are expected to be fully ripe between the 20th and 25th of August, should warm weather ensue, which is fully two weeks earlier than the imported fruit reaches our market. The original vineyard consists of less than four acres, about twenty acres more were set out with young plants the past spring, and as much more will be added the coming autumn and spring, while in addition the nursery contains some eighty-five thousand young plants for the coming fall and spring planting. One excellent feature about this new enterprise is that the French-Canadian farmers have become much interested in the grape culture, and are going more or less extensively into it. Many gentlemen have accepted the proprietors of Beaconsfield's experience as proof positive of the success of the enterprise, and are setting out extensive vineyards in various parts of the Province. Indeed, strange as it may seem, our hard clay soil and cool season seem to be especially suited for grape growing, for from late reports from Rochester and Ontario fruit-growing sections, Beaconsfield is far ahead, and bound to ripen in advance of all.

LA MINERVE.

11 Août, 1879.

LA VITICULTURE EN CANADA.

LE VIGNOBLE BEACONSFIELD A LA POINTE CLAIRE.

L'industrie vinicole est-elle possible dans la province de Québec ? A cette question, l'opinion généralement reçue répond : non ! Il ne s'en suit pas que ce non soit raisonnable.

Nous n'aurons pas longtemps à attendre une solution. Nous arrivons d'une visite à la Pointe Claire et nous avons examiné le vignoble à tous les points de vue. C'était un spectacle nouveau pour nous que la vue de ces côteaux couverts de ceps vigoureux, de vignes chargées de fruit. Nous y avons pris autant d'intérêt que de plaisir.

La première chose qui nous a frappé dans le vignoble, c'est la vigueur de la vigne nouvelle ; c'est la grosseur du grain venu en plein air, comparé au raisin des autres vignes. Tandis que les différentes variétés de vignes n'en sont qu'à former leur fruit, le raisin de Beaconsfield montre un grain solide, parfaitement rempli ; ça et là apparaissent déjà des taches bleuâtres qui, dans quelques jours, s'étendront sur toute la grape avec la maturité. Autre signe de sa vitalité, c'est qu'elle porte en ce moment avec ses fruits une seconde floraison, fait qui surprendra bien des viticulteurs.

Le vignoble comprend une trentaine d'arpents dont vingt-six, couverts de ceps nouveaux et quatre de vignes de deux ans. Sur ces quatre arpents, on récoltera au moins *trente tonnes de raisin* que l'on vendra comme raisin de table dans les différentes villes du Canada. Le sol du vignoble est très pauvre ; c'est une terre forte mélangée de sable. C'est le sol qui convient à la vigne qui, dans les terroirs trop riches, pousse trop de bois et peu de fruits. Cependant l'exposition du vignoble pourrait être meilleure, comme s'il se développait sur les beaux côteaux qui forment les premières assises de notre montagne du côté de l'ouest.

Comme vignes destinées à fournir du raisin de table, nous croyons la question résolue. Elle est hors de doute. Viendra le côté de l'industrie vinicole. C'est là que devra se porter notre attention. Ici se concentre un intérêt immense. On le comprendra lorsque nous dirons que nous envoyons pour $800,000 de commandes par année aux propriétaires de vignobles étrangers. On répète : l'industrie vinicole est impossible ici, mais qu'on suspende ce jugement. Il y a eu bien d'autres choses qui paraissaient jadis impossibles et qui sont aujourd'hui du domaine de la réalité.

---

2 Août, 1879.

NICOLET.—Nous recevons la note suivante :

Nicolet, 25 juillet 1879.

Messieurs—Permettez-moi de vous exprimer le plaisir que j'ai

éprouvé, lors de ma visite au Vignoble de Beaconsfield, en voyant la manière intelligente avec laquelle vous cultivez la vigne. J'ai été étonné au-delà de toute expression de voir ces vignes chargées d'une aussi grande quantité de fruit, et ce spectacle m'a pleinement convaincu que la culture de la vigne en Canada était chose certaine. Vous serez sans doute aussi heureux que moi en apprenant que sur les 1,300 que j'ai plantés ce printemps, trois seuls pieds ont été manqués et sans vouloir vous faire du tort, je ne crains pas de vous affirmer que mes vignes ont une meilleure apparence que celles plantées en même temps à Beaconsfield. Jusqu'à présent je suis très satisfait des vignes que vous m'avez vendues, et je n'ai qu'un seul désir, celui de pouvoir augmenter mon vignoble, et j'espère que mon exemple sera suivi par tous les cultivateurs intelligents de cette province. Agréez Messieurs l'expression de la haute considération avec laquelle je demeure, votre dévoué serviteur,

CAPT. JOS. DUVAL.

LE COURRIER DE MONTREAL.

21 Août, 1879.

LE VIGNOBLE BEACONSFIELD.

Une bienveillante invitation nous a permis de visiter le Vignoble Beaconsfield et nous avons pu nous convaincre *de visu* que les espérances des propriétaires de ce vignoble reposent sur quelque chose de plus solide qu'une vaine théorie.

2,500 pieds de vigne dite Beaconsfield, plantés au printemps de 1877 et couvrant une étendue de trois ou quatre acres, sont litéralement chargés de longues grappes de magnifique raisin. Plusieurs de ces grappes sont déjà à peu près mûres tandis qu'un grand nombre d'autres commencent à prendre une teinte violacée. Pour donner une idée de la quantité énorme de raisin que ces 2,500 pieds devront fournir il suffira de dire qu'on a compté sur un seul pied jusqu'à 130 grappes dont plusieurs pesaient au moins une livre.

Tout le monde sait que la vigne pousse bien dans ce pays, mais la difficulté est que d'ordinaire le raisin ne peut mûrir en plein air. La vigne Beaconsfield semble par sa vigueur être faite exprès pour notre rude climat. Jamais la température n'a été plus défavorable que pendant la saison actuelle pour la culture de la vigne. Cependant il est maintenant certain que le raisin Beaconsfield atteindra sa pleine maturité vers la fin du mois courant.

Les propriétaires du vignoble comptent sur une récolte de 30 tonnes ou 60,000 lbs. de raisin, ce qui ne fait qu'une moyenne de 24 lbs. par pied et, comme il y a des pieds qui donneront 100 lbs. on conviendra que cette estimation est loin d'être exagérée. Or 60,000 lbs. à 10 cts. par livre, minimum du prix qu'ils doivent rapporter, donneront donc pour ces trois ou quatre acres de terre, donc un total de $6,000. Un acre de terre planté en vigne rapportera au bas mot dès la deuxième an-

née au moins $1,000 à $1,200. Les frais de plantation s'élèvent à environ $435 par acre et les frais de culture sont relativement peu dispendieux.

Dès la première année les jeunes pousses produisent quelques fruits qui parviennent à maturité; la seconde année un acre de terre planté de 750 pieds de vigne, produit environ 3,000 lbs de raisin ; la troisième année il peut en produire 20,000 lbs., jamais moins de 10,000 lbs. Le contre-maître M. R. J. Donnelly, qui a beaucoup d'expérience dans ce genre de culture, et qui a été à la tête d'un des vignobles les plus considérables du Missouri, nous a assuré qu'avec six hommes et deux chevaux il peut cultiver 100 acres de terre plantée en vigne, le temps de la vendange excepté.

Le raisin du Canada est d'un cinquième plus gros que celui qui se récolte aux Etats-Unis, et produit 50 pour cent plus de vin. Tant que la culture de la vigne ne sera pas entreprise sur une grande échelle par nos cultivateurs il va sans dire qu'on devra se borner à cultiver le raisin comme fruit de table. Il sera d'autant plus facile de vendre le raisin canadien, qu'il se recommande par sa beauté et que ce produit peut être exporté sans le moindre inconvénient.

A part les trois acres qui doivent donner une récolte abondante ce automne, on a planté cette année 27 acres de jeunes plants dont quelques-uns portent fruit, et qui seront vendus pour être transplantés cet automne. La majeure partie de ces ceps est déjà retenue.

Du reste, le succès qui a couronné les efforts des vignerons américains tant dans l'état de New York que dans les Etats du Sud-Ouest, prouve non-seulement que le sol de l'Amérique est tout à fait favorable à la culture de la vigne, mais encore que le raisin de table est toujours en grande demande, quelle que soit l'énorme quantité que l'on offre sur le marché. Que l'on réussisse à produide du raisin ou du vin en ce pays, et il est certain que les produits de la vigne trouveront toujours un écoulement facile.

Pour donner une idée de l'extension que l'industrie vinicole a déjà atteint dans l'Etat de New York, il suffit de citer la Compagnie dite *Urbana Wine Company* de Hammondsport, N. Y., dont les vignobles couvrent une étendue de 22 milles et dont les revenus se chiffrent par millions.

La culture de la vigne ne demande pas un terrain bien riche.

On sait que le phylloxera a fait beaucoup de ravages en France. Chose assez curieuse, les vignes américaines sont exemptes de ce fléau. Les vignerons français ont commencé à importer des ceps des Etats Unis, et ce commerce tend à devenir de plus en plus important à mesure que les vignes américaines sont mieux connues.

Le Vignoble Beaconsfield est situé à environ un demi mille du village de la Pointe-Claire. Sa position sur une pointe de terre qui s'avance dans le lac St. Louis, en fait un des sites les plus enchanteurs qu'il soit possible de désirer pour une résidence d'été. Aussi plusieurs de nos concitoyens anglais attirés par la beauté de l'endroit l'ont-ils choisi pour leur villégiature. Presqu'en face de la résidence de M. Menzies, les propriétaires du vignoble ont fait construire six villas d'un aspect magnifi-

que. Elles sont allignées à égale distance les unes des autres et sont exactement de même couleur, de même forme et de même dimension. L'une d'elles est destinée à recevoir les nombreux visiteurs qui affluent au vignoble, et les autres sont occupées comme résidences d'été par les Montréalais dont nous avons parlé plus haut.

La politesse exquise avec laquelle les propriétaires reçoivent les visiteurs qui désirent visiter le vignoble, la beauté de l'endroit, la vue de ces ceps ployant sous le poids des raisins presque murs, si gros et si nombreux qu'ils écraseraient les ceps sans les treillis qui soutiennent ces derniers, tout cela joint à la nouveauté du spectacle, offre à ceux qui désirent pousser une pointe jusqu'à Beaconsfield, l'assurance qu'ils ne regretteront pas leur voyage.

Si cette entreprise réussit comme il y a lieu de l'espérer, l'industrie vinicole emploiera un grand nombre de bras, l'agriculture deviendra plus rémunérative, le commerce prendra un nouvel essor, la richesse publique s'augmentera de la somme de production qui sera ajoutée à notre actif, et la fabrication d'un vin léger dans le pays aura pour effet de diminuer les causes de l'ivrognerie.

Dieu veuille que ces prévisions puissent se réaliser.

MONTREAL HERALD.

22nd September, 1879.

THE BEACONSFIELD VINEYARD.

In consequence of some disparaging rumors respecting this enterprise, we were invited by one of the proprietors to visit the place, and on Friday last we accepted the invitation. We have rarely been more gratified by the sight of any new enterprise, because we hold that this is one of a perfectly legitimate and natural kind, consisting in the development in a new, and we hope profitable, direction of one of our great resources, and the chief one—that is to say, our fruitful soil, and, in spite of the cold winter, favorable climate. We were accompanied by a highly intelligent gardener, a native of Burgundy, well acquainted with vine growing, and on asking him what he thought of the vineyard, he remarked that it was like Bordeaux. It is not many years ago since Mr. Courtenay, whose views, perhaps, in some respects were very visionary, excited the incredulous contempt of a great many, by insisting in printed pamphlets that there was no reason why Lower Canada should not become a great vine growing and silk producing country. The silk worm culture has not yet been—perhaps never will be—attempted; but vine culture very shortly after the time we speak of became an Upper Canadian industry, and the Beaconsfield Vineyard gives promise of its taking its place in our own Province. We may indeed remark, *en passant*, that we notice an advertisement in a Quebec paper from a nurseryman, seventy miles below that city, who offers for sale vines which, he asserts, constantly ripen their fruit in his grounds and are very lavish bearers. What any one may see, however, a distance of

a half mile's railway ride from Montreal, is a genuine vineyard, capable of supplying beautiful fruit for the market in large quantities, which will next year have six or seven times the number of bearing vines now to be found on the property, on which, moreover, it is intended eventually to cover a hundred acres with this valuable plant. We hope that vine-growing on the Island of Montreal may be considered past the stage of mere experiment, when we say that the proprietors of the vineyard have no less than eighty-five thousand vines, bearing and non-bearing, but the latter well advanced, upon their farm, and that they will, within a few days, send several tons of grapes on to the market in a sound and fresh condition instead of in the more or less bruised state in which such fruits must come to us from a distance. Not being experts, we shall offer no opinion as to the question whether the Beaconsfield is or is not a new grape, justifying its title to a special name. That seems to us for practical purposes to be of very small consequence. Most of the blue grapes which we eat, and we suppose even the lighter colored ones, come from the native vines producing the small blue berry familiar in our woods, which have been varied and improved by raising from seed, by hybridization, and by the other known processes of cultivation. The Beaconsfield has certainly gone through the ameliorating process to such an extent as to afford a large berry, in very fine bunches, of a compactness, and therefore proportionate weight which, in this last particular, is seldom excellent under glass. It also possesses the merit— an essential merit in this climate, of ripening early, as may be seen, notwithstanding an unfavorable season, from the rich array of black bunches, hanging from the trellises on each side of the spectator as he walks between the rows. Its merits on the table will soon be tested, for the grape is being now offered for sale by all fruit dealers in the city; but was only, we believe, to be seen since Thursday at any of them; grapes previously sold under that name not being the produce of the Pointe Claire vineyard. It is needless to point out in how many respects the country will be benefited if this Province can be made to enter with success into the competition for the sale of grapes and wine, in which many of the States of the Union have already made great progress. It is said that fruit is always best in proportion to the northern latiude in which it is grown, provided it can be grown there to perfection. If so, such grapes as we can raise—we are of course restricted to kinds which ripen early—ought to be very valuable. There seems to be no reason why the fruit, and even the vines themselves, and perhaps wine, should not in a few years form important items of export, the coolness of our route to Europe being generally in our favor. As to wine, we have all, and perhaps with some reason, been accustomed to treat the notion of Canadian wine with contempt. That arises, however, partly from a taste formed for the fortified wines which reach us from Europe, and partly from want of skill in the earlier manufacturers. Any enquiring person, however, who will call upon Mr. Kingston of St. Sacrament street will find that there are very delicious, though not dry, wines even now produced in Upper Canada, and we are not without hope that, if we can do nothing more in this country, we shall be able to make for ourselves a

country wine which will afford a cheap and agreeable addition to the repast even of the poor, and will supersede the villainous whiskey which is now the main substitute for that beverage which, according to the Scriptures, maketh glad the heart of man. In the meantime, it is surely an event for those who know what was thought of Lower Canada, even by Lower Canadians, twenty-five or thirty years ago, to learn that a successful vineyard on a large scale, within a few miles of Montreal, is producing grapes in bunch and berry as large as those of most parts of France.

DAILY STAR.

3rd September, 1879.

GRAPE CULTURE.

Some days since Col. Dowker gathered upwards of two hundred pounds of magnificent grapes in his garden. They are of the Beaconsfield variety, being very early and fine. Large quantities of fruit have also been gathered up at Beaconsfield, the vineyards at which place are constantly attended by crowds of visitors who are much pleased with what they see. A total of thirty tons will be under rather than over the amount of the total yield.

LA PATRIE.

25 Août, 1879.

On nous a montré des raisins cultivés dans le Vignoble Beaconsfield, à la Pointe-Claire et nous devons avouer que nous avons été tout étonné de voir les résultats obtenus dès la deuxième année de culture de la vigne Beaconsfield. Le fruit est plus gros que celui des vignes américaines, et ces messieurs nous apprennent que leur récolte, sur 3 acres de terre, rapportera un bénéfice de près de $5,000.

LE SORELLOIS.

26 Septembre, 1879.

VIGNOBLE BEACONSFIELD.

En 1877, M. Menzies planta à la Pointe-Claire trois arpents de vignoble Beaconsfield et le raisin qu'il a récolté cette année a dépassé toute attente. Malgré la pluie et la mauvaise température que nous avons eues, l'essai a été magnifique et ils ont prouvé que le sol de la province de Québec était aussi propice à la culture du raisin que celui de la France. Nous avons vu nous-mêmes ce raisin et, d'après ce que nous avons pu en juger, il nous a paru supérieur à celui que l'on cultive dans le Haut-Canada et dans le Delaware. Cette précieuse découverte,—car c'en est une, vu que tout le monde croyait que le Canada était un pays

trop froid pour la culture du raisin,—cette précieuse découverte, disons-nous, va créer une source de revenus considérable pour ceux qui vont s'en occuper d'une manière spéciale.

LA MINERVE.

27 Août, 1879.

On nous a montré des raisins cultivés dans le Vignoble Beaconsfield à la Pointe-Claire et nous devons avouer que nous avons été étonnés de voir les résultats obtenus dès la deuxième année de culture Beaconsfield. Le fruit est plus gros que celui des vignes américaines, et ces messieurs nous apprennent que leur récolte, sur 3 acres de terre, rapportera un bénéfice de près de $5,000.

QUEBEC DAILY TELEGRAPH.

13th September, 1879.

GRAPES.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt from Mr. John Nelson, jr., of specimens of this season's yield of grapes from the Beaconsfield Vineyard, Pointe Claire, P.Q. They are large and luscious, and fully establish the fact that grape culture in this province has become a branch of industry, destined to assume immense proportions under such culturists as the managers of the Beaconsfield Vineyard.

LA MINERVE.

24 Septembre, 1879.

RAISIN.

Nous avons eu occasion de voir ces jours derniers du raisin de la fameuse vigne Beaconsfield. Ce raisin réalise tout ce que nous attendions de la vigne nouvelle. Ce raisin est le plus beau que nous ayons vu, comme raisin venu en plein air. Il est aussi gros que le raisin de serre-chaude et plus gros que plusieurs variétés. Il est d'un bleu profond très ferme et fond dans la bouche, ne laissant pas cette pulpe épaisse de la plupart des raisins américains. Le Beaconsfield est d'une venue parfaite et complètement mûr et tous ceux qui l'on vu sont surpris qu'on ait pu produire un raisin aussi gros, aussi bon en plein air.

LE JOURNAL DES TROIS-RIVIERES.

25 Septembre, 1879.

Nous avons reçu des propriétaires du vignoble Beaconsfield, par l'entremise de M. Nelson, leur agent, de magnifiques grappes de raisin de la récolte de cette automne. Ce raisin est un des plus beaux, des plus riches des plus odoriférants qui se puisse cultiver.

C'est la meilleure preuve que le succès de la culture de la vigne est maintenant un fait accompli.

Nous saisissons de nouveau cette occasion d'inviter les cultivateurs et les jardiniers à essayer du plant de Beaconsfield. Ce serait, avant quelques années, une richesse pour la Province, si l'on faisait quelques efforts pour introduire cette culture dans nos campagnes.

Pour la facilité de ceux de nos lecteurs qui voudraient essayer cette culture, ils pourront adresser leurs ordres au Bureau du *Journal* d'ici au commencement d'Octobre, car le temps de mettre le plant en terre ne dépasse pas le commencement de Novembre.

Les plants sont livrés à la plus prochaine station de chemin de fer avec les instructions imprimées. Prix : 50 centins le pied, payables sur livraison.